

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 T-03 OMB-01 RSR-01 /103 W

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R 160843 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2417

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

UNCLAS TOKYO 3152

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, JA

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT: JAPAN TO BUILD OIL REFINERY
IN INDONESIA - BATAM ISLAND

1. ACCORDING MARCH 14 PRESS REPORT, TWO JAPANESE GROUPS (NISSHO- IWAI- MARUZEN OIL- DAIKYO OIL AND MITSUBISHI CORPORATION- MITSUBISHI OIL COMPANY) WHICH WERE SEPARATELY PROPOSING CONSTRUCTION OF OIL REFINERIES ON BATAM ISLAND HAVE AGREED TO PROCEED JOINTLY WITH PROJECT. MITI ENCOURAGED JOINT ACTIVITY TO AVOID COMPETITION BETWEEN TWO GROUPS.

2. ACCORDING MOODY COVEY, VICE PRESIDENT, MITSUBUSHI OIL COMPANY, NISSHO- IWAI GROUP PROPOSED ONLY REFINERY WHILE MITSUBISHI GROUP PROPOSED REFINERY AS PART OF GRANDER INDUSTRIAL SCHEME. GOI ACCEPTED ONLY REFINERY FOR PRESENT TIME. FEASIBILITY STUDIES WILL BEGIN SUMMER, 1973.

3. COMMENT: IF CONSTRUCTED, THIS REFINERY WOULD BE FIRST JAPANESE OVERSEAS REFINERY SUPPLYING MAINLY JAPAN. SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES EXIST IN JAPAN WITH SITING OF REFINERIES, AND THIS CASE IN BATAM FREE- TRADE ZONE MIGHT BE PRELUDE TO FURTHER SITING OVERSEAS.

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INGERSOLL

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TOKYO03152
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730331/aaaahyty.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Nov-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971212
Subject: PRESS REPORT: JAPAN TO BUILD OIL REFINERY IN INDONESIA - BATAM ISLAND
TAGS: ENRG, JA
To: EA
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO JAKARTA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005